AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method of managing events in a standard computer system comprising a central unit connected to memory units and peripheral devices by a data bus allowing a multimaster configuration, the method comprising the following steps:

- receiving one or more events,

- time-stamping each received event, ~~and~~

- storing ~~the~~ each received event~~s~~ in a first memory and a second memory,

- assigning at least one appropriate action to each received event, and

- executing that action in response to the received event,

which method is characterized in that the above-mentioned management steps are carried out in real time without access to the central unit by a management unit included in an independent management module connected to the data bus and incorporated into the standard computer system, and the first memory and the second memory are associated with the management unit, the first memory storing events to be processed by the independent management module and the second memory storing events so that these events may be read via the data bus.

2. (CANCELLED)

3. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A management method according to claim 1, characterized in that the timescale of real-time management is of the order of one microsecond.

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4. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A management method according to claim 1, characterized in that the independent management module is isolated from the central unit by a bridge.

5. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A management method according to claim 1, characterized in that said action is read in a table of actions associated with the management unit and is preprogrammed via the data bus.

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A management method according to claim 1, characterized in that events received by the management unit are time-stamped to an accuracy of the order of 100 nanoseconds and stored in ~~a~~ the second memory associated with the management unit so that these events may be read via the data bus in order to store and monitor these events.

7. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A management method according to claim 1, characterized in that events received by the management unit are generated by a clock register internal to the management module.

8. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A management method according to claim 1, characterized in that events received by the management unit come from a unit adjacent the management module.

9. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A management method according to claim 1, characterized in that events received by the management unit come from an equipment external to the computer system.

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10. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A management method according to claim 8, characterized in that events received by the management unit are synchronized to a frequency corresponding to that of a clock internal to the computer system.

11. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A management method according to claim 1, characterized in that events received from the external equipment are filtered to eliminate interference.

12. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A management method according to claim 1, characterized in that the management unit generates an interrupt if it is not possible to associate an event with an action.

13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) Event management module incorporated into a standard computer system comprising a central unit connected to memory units and peripheral devices by a data bus allowing a multimaster configuration, which module is characterized in that it comprises:

- an independent management unit connected to the central unit via an interface and the data bus, said management unit being adapted to receive and process events in real time without intervention by the central unit,

- a time-stamping clock adapted to time-stamp these events, ~~before storing them in a first memory internal to the management unit,~~

-a first memory associated with the management unit for storing events to be processed by the event management module,

- a second memory associated with the management unit for

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storing the events in order to read them via the data bus; and

- a random-access memory containing a preprogrammed table of actions, associated with the management unit and adapted to assign appropriate actions to events received thereby.

14. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A management module according to claim 13, characterized in that the data bus is a standard bus selected from the group comprising a PCI bus, a VME bus, a compact PCI bus and a USB bus.

15. (CANCELLED)

16. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A management module according to claim 13, characterized in that the first memory and the second memory are of the FIFO type.

17. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A management module according to claim 13, characterized in that the random-access memory containing the table of actions is a double-port RAM.

18. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A management method according to claim 2, characterized in that:

the timescale of real-time management is of the order of one microsecond;

the independent management module is isolated from the central unit by a bridge;

said action is read in a table of actions associated with the management unit and is preprogrammed via the data bus;

events received by the management unit are time-stamped to

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an accuracy of the order of 100 nanoseconds and stored in ~~a~~ the second memory associated with the management unit so that these events may be read via the data bus in order to store and monitor these events.

19. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A management method according to claim 18, characterized in that events received by the management unit are generated by a clock register internal to the management module.

20. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A management method according to claim 18, characterized in that events received by the management unit come from a unit adjacent the management module.

21. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A management method according to claim 18, characterized in that events received by the management unit come from an equipment external to the computer system.

22. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A management method according to claim 20, characterized in that events received by the management unit are synchronized to a frequency corresponding to that of a clock internal to the computer system.

23. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A management method according to claim 21, characterized in that events received by the management unit are synchronized to a frequency corresponding to that of a clock internal to the computer system.

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24. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A management method according to claim 21, characterized in that:

events received from the external equipment are filtered to eliminate interference;

the management unit generates an interrupt if it is not possible to associate an event with an action.

25. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A management module according to claim 14, characterized in that:

~~it further comprises a second memory internal to the management unit for storing events in order to read them via the data bus;~~

the first memory and the second memory are of the FIFO type.

26. (New) A management module according to claim 13, characterized in that:

the first memory and the second memory are internal to the management unit.

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